FOURTH REPORT

COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT LOCAL AREA DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

(THIRTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
PROPOSALS TO AMEND GUIDELINES ON MPLADS

Presented to Lok Sabha on 23.3.2001

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

March, 2001/Chaitra, 1923 (S)

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COMPOSITION OF THE MPLADS COMMITTEE

Dr. Bolla Bulli Ramaiah — *Chairman*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Adhi Sankar
3. Shri Arun Kumar
4. Dr. Baliram
5. Shri G.M. Banatwalla
6. Shri Surendra Singh Barwala
7. Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi
8. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi
9. Shri Bikram Keshari Deo
10. Shri Raghuvir Singh Kaushal
11. Shri Chandrakant Khaire
12. Shri Sis Ram Ola
13. Prof. R.R. Pramanik
14. Shri C.P. Radhakrishnan
15. Shri Rajendrasinh Rana
16. Shri S.B.P.B.K. Satyanarayana Rao
17. Shri Tara Chand Sahu
18. Shri Saiduzzama
19. Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan
20. Shri Balbir Singh
21. Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh
22. Shri Chinmayanand Swami
23. Shri Ravi Prakash Verma
24. Shri Dinesh Chandra Yadav

SECRETARIAT

1. Dr. (Smt.) Paramjit Kaur Sandhu — *Joint Secretary*
2. Shri K.L. Narang — *Director*
3. Shri S.C. Kaliraman — *Assistant Director*

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Committee on Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) (2001) having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Fourth Report on the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation 'Proposals to amend Guidelines on MPLADS.'

2. The Committee considered the representations and proposals received from Hon'ble Ministers and Members of Parliament for amendment to Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme at their sittings held on 13 and 22 February, 2001. The observations/recommendations made in the Report are based on the decisions taken by the Committee at their aforesaid sittings.

3. The Committee considered and adopted the Report at their sitting held on 19 March, 2001.

4. The Committee would like to express their thanks to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation for placing before them the written notes and information the Committee desired in connection with examination of the representations and suggestions of Hon'ble Members of Parliament for amendment to the Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme.

5. For facility of reference, the observations/recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in the body of the Report and have also been reproduced in consolidated form in the Appendix to the Report.

NEW DELHI;
21 *March*, 2001
30 *Phalguna*, 1922 *(S)*

DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH,
Chairman,
Committee on Members of Parliament
Local Area Development Scheme.

REPORT

I

SUGGESTION TO AMEND PARA 1.3 OF THE GUIDELINES ON MPLADS REGARDING ALLOWING MPs TO CONTRIBUTE ANY AMOUNT THEY DESIRE UPTO RS. 2 CRORE FOR EACH NATURAL CALAMITY OF RARE SEVERITY IN ANY PART OF THE COUNTRY

1.1 The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation addressed a letter dated 16 November, 2000 to Lok Sabha Secretariat suggesting therein an amendment in Para 1.3 of the Guidelines on MPLAD Scheme regarding making provision for recommendation of works upto Rs. 10 lakh for each natural calamity of rare severity.

1.2 The Ministry, in their communication stated as under:—

"On 26 May, 2000 Guidelines were amended to allow MPs to recommend works outside their Constituencies/States for an amount not exceeding Rs. 10 lakh per annum for construction of assets that are permissible in the Guidelines for rehabilitation measures in the event of natural calamity of rare severity. For the purpose, Para 1.3 was added in the Guidelines.

(2) Using this provision, many MPs contributed for construction of assets like school-cum-cyclone shelter for relief of cyclone affected areas of Orissa.

(3) In accordance with provision of Para 1.3, those MPs who have contributed for Orissa Cyclone Relief, cannot contribute, money for relief measures in the event of nautral calamity of rare severity in any other part of the country in a single financial year as the Para 1.3 lays down a ceiling of Rs. 10 lakh per annum for the purpose.

(4) Requests have been received from the MPs that they be allowed to recommend works upto Rs. 10 lakh for each natural calamity of rare severity.

(5) Recently, on 3-4 November, 2000, the hon'bel MOS (S&PI) had taken a meeting of the MPs and State/District officials of West Bengal to review implementation of MPLADS in that State. Some MPs in that meeting had observed that when there were more calamities than one in a year, as there had been in the recent past, the present Guidelines would be too restrictive.

(6) The matter has been considered and the Ministry is of the view that MPs should be allowed to contribute Rs. 10 lakh for a natural

calamity of rare severity irrespective of the number of calamities of that kind for which they have contributed earlier.

(7) It is accordingly proposed to amend the present provisions contained in Para 1.3 of the Guidelines to read as follows:

> "1.3 MPs can also recommend works outside their Constituencies/ States for construction of assets that are permissible in the Guidelines, for rehabilitation measures in the event of "natural calamity of rare severity" in any part of the country for an amount not exceeding Rs. 10 lakh, for each calamity."

(8) It is requested that the proposed amendment may kindly be placed before the Committee on MPLADS for their consideration."

1.3 In a subsequent communication dated 31 January, 2001 addressed to Commissioners, Corporation of Kolkata/Chennai/Delhi, District Collectors/District Magistrates/Dy. Commissioners, all Districts and a copy endorsed to Lok Sabha Secretariat, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation further stated as follows:—

> "Requests have been received from hon'ble Members of Parliament to allow them to contribute whatever amount they can from their MPLADS funds for taking up relief and rehabilitation works in the earthquake affected areas of Gujarat.
>
> (2) The matter has been considered and it has been decided to relax the provisions contained in Para 1.3 of the Guidelines allowing *MPs to contribute any amount they desire* from their MPLADS funds for taking up developmental works that are permissible in the Guidelines for rehabilitation in the earthquake affected areas of Gujarat. The ceiling of Rs. 10 lakh accordingly stands waived and MPs may assign whatever portion from their balance as they desire to contribute, that they may contribute the entire Rs. 2 crore accruing to them in a year."

Recommendation

1.4 **The Committee note the decision of the Government regarding making amendment in para 1.3 of the Guidelines on MPLADS for allowing MPs to contribute any amount they desire upto Rupees two crore for each natural calamity of rare severity in any part of the country. The Committee, however, feel that Members of Parliament under the MPLAD Scheme can suggest developmental works to the tune of Rupees two crore in their constituencies based on locally felt needs. As such, they owe their responsibility towards their constituents and keeping in view that the funds allocated under MPLADS are meant for local development, reiterate their earlier recommendation as follows:—**

> "1.3 MPs can also recommend works outside their Constituencies/ States for an amount not exceeding Rs. 10 lakhs per annum for construction of assets that are permissible in the Guidelines, for

rehabilitation measures in the event of a natural calamity of rare severity in any part of the country".

1.5 The Committee also recommend that:—

(i) Member may contribute an amount not exceeding Rs. 10 lakhs for each calamity in a year;

(ii) if any Member wants to contribute more than Rs. 10 lakhs, he should seek permission of the Committee; and

(iii) contribution towards relief work in a year should not exceed Rs. 10 lakhs per annum.

The Committee also desire that it should be the responsibility of the Government to define and declare the term *'natural calamaity of rare severity'* to enable the Members of Parliament to make such contribution. The Committee are of the opinion that the money should be utilised for the said purposes as per the Guidelines on MPLADS and the Members of Parliament should be informed accordingly.

II

PROPOSAL FOR CONTRIBUTION FROM QUOTA OF MPLADS FUNDS FOR WORKS OUTSIDE ONE'S PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY

2.1 Shri Muni Lall, Minister of State for Labour and Employment addressed an identical letter dated 19 October, 2000 to hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha and Minister of State for Planning, Statistics and Programme Implementation and Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances requesting therein to allow him to make contribution from quota of MPLADS funds for works outside his Parliamentary constituency.

2.2 In his letter, the hon'ble Minister stated as follows:—

> "Though it looks out of context to put forth my request to your kind and hon'ble self, but, I am compelled to bring the following facts for your consideration.
>
> During my recent visit to Block Ishuapur, District Saran of Bihar, I found that the weaker sections of the society are facing acute problems in the absence of a High School building. The cost of the building of SNG High School, Rampur Atouli estimated would be approximately Rs. 10 lakh. This would be benefiting innumerable students belonging to the weaker sections of the society.
>
> Though this block does not fall under my Parliamentary Constituency, after seeing the plight of the local students, I felt the requirement and prepare to bear the cost of Rupees 5 lakh out of the estimated 10 lakh rupees. But as per the guidelines, as a Member of Parliament, I am allowed to spend the money from the MPLADS funds to my Parliamentary Constituency. Hence it is my earnest request to your hon'ble self to kindly grant special permission to allow me to meet Rs. 5 lakh expenditure to this proposed SNG High School, Rampur Atouli, Block Ishuapur, District Saran, which falls outside my Parliamentary Constituency for which I shall feel highly obliged."

2.3 The matter was referred to the Minsitry of Statistics and Programme Implementation for obtaining their factual comments. The Ministry *vide* their communication dated 20 November, 2000 stated as under:—

> "Shri Muni Lall, hon'ble MOS for Labour & Employment, proposes to spend MPLADS funds for the construction of a High School Building at Rampur, Atouli Block Ishuapur, District Saran, Bihar which falls outside his parliamentary constituency.

Guidelines on MPLADS permit a Lok Sabha MP to recommend works within his/her constituency only. This position has been informed to MOS (Labour) by MOS (S&PI) in his letter dated 6.11.2000. It has been informed to the MOS (Labour) that the present guidelines do not allow a Lok Sabha MP to recommend works outside his Parliamentary Constituency. It is requested that the matter may kindly be placed before the Committee on MPLADS of Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha so that they may see if they can make an exception in this case."

Recommendation

2.4 The Committee note the proposal of the hon'ble Minister seeking permission to utilise some money out of his quota of MPLADS funds for works outside his Parliamentary constituency. The Committee while not approving the request of the hon'ble Minister recommend that no money should be utilised from MPLADS funds outside one's Parliamentary constituency except incase of a natural calamity of rare severity in any part of the country.

III

SUGGESTION REGARDING ALLOWING CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS WITHIN PREMISES OF UNAIDED BUT RECOGNIZED EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS UNDER MPLADS

3.1 The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation addressed a letter dated 1 December, 2000 to Lok Sabha Secretariat making suggestion regarding allowing construction of roads within premises of unaided but recognized educational institutions under MPLAD Scheme for consideration of the Committee on MPLADS.

3.2 The Ministry in their communication stated as under:—

> "A suggestion has been received for allowing under MPLADS, construction of road within premises of an unaided but recognised educational institution. Considering a large number of students benefiting from unaided schools which impart education on syllabus and pattern approved by the Government, it was decided to allow construction of buildings belonging to unaided but recognized educational institutions provided the institution was in existence for not less than two years.
>
> Allowing roads within the premises/campus of an unaided educational institution would serve the same purpose as the building for unaided educational institution *i.e.* benefit of the student community.
>
> Keeping in view the above, it is proposed to allow construction of roads inside the premises/campus of unaided but recognised educational institutions provided the institution is in existence for not less than two years. The proposal may kindly be placed before the Committee on MPLADS for their consideration."

Recommendation

3.3 The Committee note the suggestion of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation regarding allowing construction of roads within premises of unaided but recognised institutions under MPLADS. The Committee while agreeing with the proposal of the Ministry in this regard recommend allowing construction of roads inside the premises/campus of unaided but recognised educational institutions provided the institution was in existence for not less than two years.

IV

SUGGESTION REGARDING REQUEST FOR RELAXATION IN THE GUIDELINES ON MPLADS FOR UTILISATION OF RS. ONE CRORE FOR EXECUTION OF A MINOR IRRIGATION PROJECT IN DEOGARH PARLIAMENTARTY CONSTITUENCY IN ORISSA

4.1 Dr. Debendra Pradhan, Minister of State for Agriculture addressed a letter dated 6 November, 2000 to hon'ble Chairman, Committee on MPLADS regarding request for relaxation in the Guidelines on MPLADS for utilisation of Rs. one crore for execution of a minor irrigation project in Deogarh Parliamentary constituency in Orissa for consideration of the Committee on MPLADS.

4.2 In his letter, the hon'ble Minister stated as follows:—

> "It is understood that under the existing guidelines on "Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme" (MPLADS), the monetary ceiling for suggesting a single work to be executed under MPLADS, has been kept at Rs. 25 lacs. In this context, I would like to inform you that I have sanctioned an amount of Rs. 100 lacs under MPLADS for execution of a Minor Irrigation Project, *i.e.*, Nalam Minor Irrigation Project (Dalakjharan) in my Parliamentary Constituency, *i.e.* Deogarh, Orissa. Once this project is completed, it will bring about a lot of prosperity in the area. Hence, I am to request you to kindly relax the MPLADS guidelines for execution of this project under MPLADS as the sanctioned amount for this project exceeds the limit on laid down expenditure. I will be grateful if necessary instructions are issued to the District Magistrate & Collector, District Angul, Orissa for sanctioning the said Project."

4.3 The matter was referred to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme implementation for obtaining their comments. The Ministry *vide* their communication dated 28 November, 2000 replied as under:—

> "Dr. Debendra Pradhan, hon'ble MOS for Agriculture has proposed to execute Nalam Minor Irrigation Project in his Constituency under MPLADS at an estimated cost of Rs. 1 crore.
>
> Para 4.1 of the Guidelines on MPLADS stipulates that the cost of each work to be taken up under MPLADS should not normally exceed Rs. 25 lakhs. However, these provisions also permit spending amount higher than Rs. 25 lakhs if the nature of work so demands.

MOS (S&PI) has already sent a reply to hon'ble MOS (Agri.) intimating that the extant Guidelines on MPLADS do not permit for the instant proposal and keeping in view the justification and in public interest the proposal might be referred to the Committees on MPLADS of the two Houses for their consideration and approval as it might lead to amendment in the existing Guidelines on MPLADS. A copy of the reply sent by MOS (S&PI) to MOS (Agri.) is enclosed. (*See* Annexure)

It is requested that the matter may kindly be placed before the Committee on MPLADS for suitable amendment in the extant Guidelines on MPLADS as a number of such proposals are being received from time to time from the hon'ble MPs."

Recommendation

4.4 The Committee note the proposal of hon'ble Minister regarding request for relaxation in the Guidelines on MPLADS for utilisation of Rupees one crore for execution of a minor irrigation project in his Parliamentary constituency. The Committee while accepting the views of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation in this regard, approve the utilisation of Rupees one crore for execution of a minor irrigation project in his Parliamentary constituency in view of larger public interest treating it as a special case.

V

ENHANCEMENT IN THE QUOTA OF MPLAD FUNDS FOR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

5.1 The Committee, at their sitting held on 22 February, 2001 deliberated over the matter regarding enhancement of quota of MPLAD funds from the present Rs. 2 crore to Rs. 4 crore per annum.

5.2 In this connection, the Committee was also apprised about the meeting of hon'ble Speaker with Minister of Finance, Minister of Rural Development, Minister of Statistics and Programme Implementation and Leaders of Parties in Lok Sabha, held on 13 December, 2000 regarding enhancement in the quota of MPLADS funds for MPs in which hon'ble Finance Minister *inter-alia* apprised the Leaders as follows:—

> "So far as the current year is concerned, I have a problem because the budget has been made in the Supplementary that I presented to the House today."

Recommendation

5.3 The Committee note the deliberation of the meeting of hon'ble Speaker with Minister of Finance, Minister of Rural Development, Minister of Statistics and Programme Implementation and Leaders of Parties in Lok Sabha regarding enhancement in the quota of MPLAD funds for MPs. The Committee, in view of the increasing demands received by MPs from their constituents for development works recommend that the quota of MPLAD funds should be enhanced from the present Rs. 2 crore to Rs. 4 crore per annum. The Committee hope that the Government would take positive decision at least during the financial year 2001-2002 in meeting the long awaited demand of the hon'ble Members of Parliament.

NEW DELHI;
21 *March*, 2001

30 *Phalguna*, 1922(S)

DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH,
Chairman,
Committee on Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme.

APPENDIX I

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

1.4 The Committee note the decision of the Government regarding making amendment in para 1.3 of the Guidelines on MPLADS for allowing MPs to contribute any amount they desire upto Rupees two crore for each natural calamity of rare severity in any part of the country. The Committee, however, feel that Members of Parliament under the MPLADS Scheme can suggest developmental works to the tune of Rupees two crore in their constituencies based on locally felt needs. As such, they owe their responsibility towards their constituents and keeping in view that the funds allocated under MPLADS are meant for local development, reiterate their earlier recommendation as follows:—

> **"1.3 MPs can also recommend works outside their Constituencies/ States for an amount not exceeding Rs. 10 lakhs per annum for construction of assets that are permissible in the Guidelines, for rehabilitation measures in the event of a natural calamity of rare severity in any part of the country."**

1.5 The Committee also recommend that:—

(i) Member may contribute an amount not exceeding Rs. 10 lakhs for each calamity in a year;

(ii) if any Member wants to contribute more than Rs. 10 lakhs, he should seek permission of the Committee; and

(iii) contribution towards relief work in a year should not exceed Rs. 10 lakhs per annum.

The Committee also desire that it should be the responsibility of the Government to define and declare the term *'natural calamity of rare severity'* to enable the Members of Parliament to make such contribution. The Committee are of the opinion that the money should be utilised for the said purposes as per the Guidelines on MPLADS and the Members of Parliament should be informed accordingly.

2.4 The Committee note the proposal of the hon'ble Minister seeking permission to utilise some money out of his quota of MPLADS funds for works outside his Parliamentary constituency. The Committee while not approving the request of the hon'ble Minister recommend that no money should be utilised from MPLADS funds outside one's Parliamentary constituency except in case of a natural calamity of rare severity in any part of the country.

3.3 The Committee note the suggestion of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation regarding allowing construction of roads within premises of unaided but recognised institutions under MPLADS. The Committee while agreeing with the proposal of the Ministry in this regard recommend allowing construction of roads inside the premises/campus of unaided but recognised educational institutions provided the institutions was in existence for not less than two years.

4.4 The Committee note the proposal of hon'ble Minister regarding request for relaxation in the Guidelines on MPLADS for utilisation of Rupees one crore for execution of a minor irrigation project in his Parliamentary constituency. The Committee while accepting the views of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation in this regard, approve the utilisation of Rupees one crore for execution of a minor irrigation project in his Parliamentary constituency in view of larger public interest treating it as a special case.

5.3 The Committee note the deliberation of the meeting of hon'ble Speaker with Minister of Finance, Minister of Rural Development, Minister of Statistics and Programme Implementation and Leaders of Parties in Lok Sabha regarding enhancement in the quota of MPLAD funds for MPs. The Committee, in view of the increasing demands received by MPs from their constituents for development works recommend that the quota of MPLAD funds should be enhanced from the present Rs. 2 crore to Rs. 4 crore per annum. The Committee hope that the Government would take positive decision at least during the financial year 2001-2002 in meeting the long awaited demand of the hon'ble Members of Parliament.

APPENDIX II

CONFIDENTIAL

MINUTES OF SECOND SITTING OF COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT LOCAL AREA DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (LOK SABHA)

The Committee sat on Tuesday, the 13th February, 2001 from 14.00 to 15.20 hours.

PRESENT

Dr. Bolla Bulli Ramaiah—*Chairman*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Arun Kumar
3. Shri G.M. Banatwalla
4. Shri Surendra Singh Barwala
5. Shri Chandrakant Khaire
6. Shri Sis Ram Ola
7. Prof. R.R. Pramanik
8. Shri Saiduzzama
9. Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan
10. Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh

SECRETARIAT

1. Dr. (Smt.) Paramjit Kaur Sandhu— *Joint Secretary*
2. Shri K.L. Narang — *Director*
3. Shri S.C. Kaliraman — *Assistant Director*

2. At the outset the hon'ble Chairman welcomed the Members of the new Committee as he was not present in the first sitting of the Committee held on 27th January, 2001.

3. The Committee, thereafter, took-up for consideration memoranda Nos. 1 to 4 relating to amendments in the Guidelines on MPLADS. The decisions/recommendations are given memorandum-wise seriatim:—

(i) Memorandum No. 1 regarding **"suggestion to amend para 1.3 of the Guidelines on MPLADS regarding allowing MPs to contribute any amount they desire upto Rs. 2 crore for each natural calamity of rare severity in any part of the country."**

The Committee felt that Members of Parliament under the MPLAD Scheme could suggest developmental works to the tune of Rupees two crore in their constituencies based on locally felt needs. As such, they

owed their responsibility towards their constituents and felt that Members of Parliament under MPLAD Scheme should not be allowed any amount exceeding rupees one crore for relief and rehabilitation works in earthquake affected areas of Gujarat. The Committee also desired that it should be the responsibility of the Government to define and declare the natural calamity of 'rare severity' to enable the Members of Parliament to make such contribution. The Committee were also of the opinion that the money for Gujarat relief work should be utilised for the said purposes as per the Guidelines on MPLADS and the Members of Parliament should be informed accordingly by the Government.

(ii) Memorandum No. 2 regarding **"Proposal of contribution from quota of MPLADS funds for works outside one's Parliamentary constituency."**

The Committee deliberated over the proposal of the hon'ble Minister seeking permission to utilise MPLADS funds for works outside his Parliamentary constituency. The Committee while not approving the request of the hon'ble Minister decided that no money should be utilised from MPLADS funds outside one's Parliamentary constituency except in a natural calamity of rare severity in any part of the country.

(iii) Memorandum No. 3 regarding **"allowing construction of roads within premises of unaided but recognised educational institutions under MPLADS."**

The Committee deliberated over the proposal and approved it.

(iv) Memorandum No. 4 regarding **"request for relaxation in the Guidelines on MPLADS for utilisation of Rupees one crore for execution of a minor irrigation project in Deogarh Parliamentary constituency in Orissa."**

The Committee perused the proposal of hon'ble Minister regarding request for relaxation in the Guidelines on MPLADS for utilisation of Rupees one crore for execution of a minor irrigation project in his Parliamentary constituency and approved it as a special case.

The Committee then adjourned.

APPENDIX III

CONFIDENTIAL

MINUTES OF THIRD SITTING OF COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT LOCAL AREA DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (LOK SABHA)

The Committee sat on Thursday, the 22nd February, 2001 from 1600 to 1650 hours.

PRESENT

Dr. Bolla Bulli Ramaiah—*Chairman*

MEMBERS

2. Dr. Bali Ram
3. Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi
4. Shri Bikram Kesari Deo
5. Shri Sis Ram Ola
6. Shri S.B.P.B.K. Satyanarayana Rao
7. Shri Saiduzzama
8. Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri K.L. Narang —*Director*
2. Shri S.C. Kaliraman—Assistant Director

2. At the outset the Committee took up for consideration memorandum No. 5 **regarding review of amendment made in para 1.3 of the Guidelines on MPLADS regarding allowing MPs to contribute any amount they desire upto Rs. 2 crore for each natural calamity of rare severity in any part of the country.**

The Committee deliberated over the memorandum and reviewed their earlier decision taken in their second sitting held on 13th February, 2001 that Members of Parliament under MPLAD Scheme should not be allowed to contribute any amount exceeding Rupees one crore for relief and rehabilitation works in earthquake affected areas of Gujarat. In this regard, keeping in view that the funds allocated under MPLADS are meant for development of locally felt needs, the Committee decided to reiterate their earlier recommendation as follows:

> **"1.3 MPs can also recommend works outside their Constituencies/ States for an amount not exceeding Rs. 10 lakhs per annum for construction of assets that are permissible in the Guidelines, for**

rehabilitation measures in the event of a natural calamity of rare severity in any part of the country."

3. The Committee, therefore, decided as follows:—

(i) Member may contribute an amount not exceeding Rs. 10 lakhs for each calamity in a year.

(ii) If any Member wants to contribute more than Rs. 10 lakhs, he should seek permission of the Committee.

(iii) Contribution towards relief work in a year should not exceed Rs. 10 lakhs per annum.

4. Thereafter, the Committee decided to recommend that the quota of MPLADS funds should be enhanced from the present Rupees two crore to Rupees four crore per annum. In this connection, the Committee was also apprised about the meeting of hon'ble Speaker with Minister of Finance, Minister of Rural Development, Minister of Statistics and Programme Implementation and Leaders of Parties in Lok Sabha, held on 13 December, 2000 in which hon'ble Finance Minister *inter alia* apprised the Leaders as follows:—

"So far as the current year is concerned, I have a problem because the budget has been made in the Supplementary that I presented to the House today."

5. The Committee also desired that:—

(i) The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation should be asked to bring out updated booklet of the Guidelines on MPLADS incorporating the latest amendments with footnotes.

(ii) The District Magistrates/District Collectors should be impressed upon to ensure erection of boards displaying permanently and prominently the name of the concerned MP at the site of the work being executed under MPLAD Scheme.

(iii) Information should be obtained from the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation regarding details of the utilisation of MPLADS funds contributed for reconstruction and rehabilitation purposes in the cyclone affected areas of Orissa.

The Committee then adjourned.

APPENDIX IV

CONFIDENTIAL

MINUTES OF FOURTH SITTING OF COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT LOCAL AREA DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (LOK SABHA)

The Committee sat on Monday, 19 March, 2001 from 1600 to 1700 hours.

PRESENT

Dr. Bolla Bulli Ramaiah—Chairman

MEMBERS

2. Shri Adhi Sankar
3. Shri Arun Kumar
4. Shri G.M. Banatwalla
5. Shri Surendra Singh Barwala
6. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi
7. Shri Bikram Keshari Deo
8. Shri Raghuvir Singh Kaushal
9. Shri Tara Chand Sahu
10. Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan
11. Shri Balbir Singh
12. Shri Chinmayanand Swami

SECRETARIAT

1. Dr. (Smt.) Paramjit Kaur Sandhu — *Joint Secretary*
2. Shri K.L. Narang — *Director*
3. Shri S.C. Kaliraman — *Assistant Director*

2. At the outset, the Committee considered the Draft Report—'Proposal to amend Guidelines on MPLADS' and adopted the same without any modification.

3. The Committee authorised the Chairman to finalise the Report and also to make verbal and consequential changes, if any, arising out of factual verification by the Ministry and present the same to Lok Sabha.

** ** **

** ** **

The Committee then adjourned.

APPENDIX V

STATEMENT OF OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Sl. No.	Para No.	Ministry	Observations/Recommendations
1	2	3	4
1.	1.4	M/o Statistics and Programme Implementation	The Committee note the decision of the Government regarding making amendment in para 1.3 of the Guidelines on MPLADS for allowing MPs to contribute any amount they desire upto Rupees two crore for each natural calamity of rare severity in any part of the country. The Committee, however, feel that Members of Parliament under the MPLAD Scheme can suggest developmental works to the tune of Rupees two crore in their constituencies based on locally felt needs. As such, they owe their responsibility towards their constituents and keeping in view that the funds allocated under MPLADS are meant for local development, reiterate their earlier recommendation as follows:— "1.3 MPs can also recommend works outside their Constituencies/States for an amount not exceeding Rs. 10 lakhs per annum for construction of assets that are permissible in the Guidelines, for rehabilitation measures in the event of a natural calamity of rare severity in any part of the country".
2.	1.5.	-do-	The Committee also recommend that:— (i) Member may contribute an amount not exceeding Rs. 10 lakhs for each calamity in a year; (ii) if any Member wants to contribute more than Rs. 10 lakhs, he should

1	2	3	4
			seek permission of the Committee; and (iii) contribution towards relief work in a year should not exceed Rs. 10 lakhs per annum. The Committee also desire that it should be the responsibility of the Government to define and declare the term *'natural calamity of rare severity'* to enable the Members of Parliament to make such contribution. The Committee are of the opinion that the money should be utilised for the said purposes as per the Guidelines on MPLADS and the Members of Parliament should be informed accordingly.
3.	2.4	M/o Statistics and Programme Implementation	The Committee note the proposal of the hon'ble Minister seeking permission to utilise some money out of his quota of MPLADS funds for works outside his Parliamentary constituency. The Committee while not approving the request of the hon'ble Minister recommend that no money should be utilised from MPLADS funds outside one's Parliamentary constituency except in case of a natural calamity of rare severity in any part of the country.
4.	3.3	-do-	The Committee note the suggestion of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation regarding allowing construction of roads within premises of unaided but recognised institutions under MPLADS. The Committee while agreeing with the proposal of the Ministry in this regard recommend allowing construction of roads inside the premises/campus of unaided but recognised educational institutions provided the institution was in existence for not less than two years.

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5.	4.4	M/o Statistics and Programme Implementation	The Committee note the proposal of hon'ble Minister regarding request for relaxation in the Guidelines on MPLADS for utilisation of Rupees one crore for execution of a minor irrigation project in his Parliamentary constituency. The Committee while accepting the views of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation in this regard, approve the utilisation of Rupees one crore for execution of a minor irrigation project in his Parliamentary constituency in view of larger public interest treating it as a special case.
6.	5.3	-do-	The Committee note the deliberation of the meeting of hon'ble Speaker with Minister of Finance, Minister of Rural Development, Minister of Statistics and Programme Implementation and Leaders of Parties in Lok Sabha regarding enhancement in the quota of MPLADs funds for MPs. The Committee, in view of the increasing demands received by MPs from their constituents for development works recommend that the quota of MPLADs funds should be enhanced from the present Rs. 2 crore to Rs. 4 crore per annum. The Committee hope that the Government would take positive decision at least during the financial year 2001-2002 in meeting the long awaited demand of the hon'ble Members of Parliament.